

OCT 01 1997

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
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HELENA, MONTANA 59620**Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies**
NEW Board President - Rev. Ken Moore

In the last few months the Board of Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies has restructured the coalition so that we will be more responsive to important changes taking place around us. Suddenly we are beginning to experience the impact

managed care is having upon our health delivery system. Profound changes are also being brought about by advances in computer technology. Organizations like ours must develop new funding strategies in response to changing patterns in American philanthropy.

Rather than be victims of such change, the board has moved aggressively to reposition the coalition to maximize our effectiveness in improving the health and well-being of Montana's mothers and children.

Recognizing our unique position as the foremost repository of data and information on Montana's children and families, we are working with computer experts on the cutting edge of this technology to find ways in which this information can best be shared and utilized.

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies had a positive impact during the legislative session successfully persuading our government leaders to spend more on children than Corrections. In spite of some modest successes we still face an uphill battle in convincing those in government that the dollars we spend on effective strategies of prevention today will reap great savings in the future.

There is much that we can learn from Mother Teresa who is perhaps the most famous "mother" in the world. As Sister Teresa in 1948, she was given permission to leave her order of nearly twenty years and travel to India. On her first day in Calcutta, Teresa picked up five abandoned children and brought them to her "school." Before the year ended, she had 41 students learning about hygiene in her classroom in a public park. She soon recognized that she could not do it alone and so she founded the Sisters of Charity known throughout the world for their ministries of compassion among the poor, the homeless and dying.

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies is a coalition; persons from various walks of life who care deeply about Montana's mothers and children. We are part of a community of compassionate, loving people who care deeply about moms and kids. None of us can do it all, but together, "one with another one," we will make a difference!

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**DORIS BIERSDORF
RECEIVES
DONALD E. ESPELIN
AWARD**

Doris Biersdorf, RD, of Billings has received the 1996 Donald E. Espelin Award for Excellence in Maternal and Child Health. The award is presented each year by Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, The Montana Coalition to a person that has shown an extraordinary commitment to issues affecting mothers and children in Montana. Doris was honored for her advocacy and leadership in promoting good nutrition for mothers, babies and children and for fostering the development of local HMHB coalitions in Montana. She has worked in maternal and child health, nutritional health and public health for the past 16 years.

Doris has worked for the Yellowstone City-County Health Department since 1980, has worked in the WIC office in Yellowstone County and is currently the director of Maternal and Child Health. She resides in Billings with her husband Jeff and her daughter Jennifer.

1997 nominations are due the first part of November, 1997. Call HMHB for further information.

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Healthy Mothers,
Healthy Babies
The Montana Coalition

Spring, 1997

NEWSLETTER

PLEASE

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies **The Montana Coalition** **Board of Directors**

OFFICERS

President: Rev. Ken Moore;
 First Christian Church, Helena
Vice President: Tammy Plubell;
 Attorney General's Office, Helena
Secretary/Treasurer: Carl Tanberg,
 CPA; Retired, Clancy

BOARD MEMBERS

Iris Basta; Attorney at Law, Helena
 David Jackson; Attorney at Law, Helena
 Jodi Overstreet; Gallatin County
 HMHB Chair, Three Forks
 Kathy Toney, RN; St. Vincent's
 Women Center, Billings
 Carol Williams; Missoula
 Joyce Williams, MD; Sidney
 Steve Yeakel; Government Affairs
 Consultant, Helena

Medical Advisor:

Tom Key, MD; Great Falls Clinic,
 Great Falls

STAFF

Executive Director:
 Elizabeth Roeth-Espelin
Executive Assistant:
 Elsie Armstrong
Project Assistant:
 Flora Sebens

Send for . . .

- ⇒ 1996 *KIDS COUNT* Data Book - A book of statistics & information on the status, trends & well-being of Montana's children. Cost: \$30.00 Also available on diskette \$37.50.- *Contact HMHB - (406)449-8611*
- ⇒ Montana Commemorative Birth Certificate. You can honor someone special and support HMHB in promoting activities and projects which address the issues affecting the health of mothers & children. Cost: \$15.00, plus \$2.00 for postage & handling) *Contact HMHB - (406)449-8611*
- ⇒ HUH!?? Newsletter - a quarterly newsletter about working with children and youth in groups. Subscriptions for 1997 are \$5.00- *Contact the Long Island Institute for Group Work With Children and Youth - 480 Old Westbury Rd, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577*
- ⇒ Group Work with Adolescents Presenting the theory, principles & methods of group work, this text focuses on the specific needs & problems of adolescents in the multiple context of their lives. Cost: \$35.00 - *Contact James A. Garland, Boston University School of Social Work - 800-365-7006.*

Message from the Executive Director **Elizabeth Roeth-Espelin, RNC, MBA**



I gave much thought about my message for this newsletter. As I reflected, mostly what I am feeling is being proud - proud to be in an organization whose life touches so many wonderful people. People, who, on a daily basis give unselfishly of themselves to make this world a better place for moms, babies and their families.

In that vein, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those people who have been so gracious with their time and resources.

The HMHB Community Coalitions - who provide the "glue" to bring people together to address the many pressing and vital maternal and child health issues in our communities!

Baby Your Baby contacts (great public health nurses!) in every county who provide pregnant women and babies the support they need to be healthy.

The many Montana businesses, agencies and organizations who sponsor Baby Your Baby.

Governor Racicot for his continued support and commitment to Montana's children. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana and Helena Insty-Prints for doing yo-person printing!

Senator Mignon Waterman, Rep. John Bollinger, Rep. Beverly Barnhardt, Rep. Red Menahan and Steve Yeakel for their legislative work on behalf of the KIDS COUNT Project.

Dana Glatz, WESCO, and the R2-D2 Committee for their heroic work in developing a program design to move HMHB to the technological cutting edge.

KIDS COUNT Advisory Committee for their exceptional work - above and beyond the call of duty - to make the 1996 Data Book such a success.

Janet Meissner, Teen Pregnancy Coordinator (Great Falls) and the PATH Task Force who have worked diligently to develop a conceptual framework and action plan to reduce teen pregnancy in Montana.

The more than 30 communities that participated in honoring our teens during our Fifth Annual Montana Teen Day this year!

The Montana Funeral Directors Association for helping us honor moms by funding our Mothers Day Church Worship Booklet.

Lynn & Albert Lundborg and their committees for their creativity and hard work to raise funds to continue HMHB's work.

Special Benefactors - Mountain West Bank, the Doctors Company and Van Kirke Nelson, MD.

Nancy Ellery, Hank Hudson and Maxine Ferguson for being a tower of strength for the health and the well-being of Montana's children.

To the collaborative team working on EMSC Open Water Drowning - creative, committed and do they get the work done!

To HMHB's newest Board Member, Carol Williams - she is already making a difference.

A very special thank you to HMHB's staff, Elsie Armstrong and Flora Sebens, for being there for all of us. They handle such high volume of requests and demands with great expertise and caring!

And most of all to the HMHB Board for their extraordinary vision and commitment to take HMHB into 21st Century.

I know there are many others who I may have missed - please know that you are appreciated!

Thank you for allowing me to work with you, gain insight from your wisdom and be inspired from your commitment and accomplishments.



HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES WEEK



May 11 Through 17 Annual Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Week

The week starting on Mother's Day, May 11 through 17 is being celebrated as Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Week in Montana. The focus of this year's event will be *Providing a Loving and Caring Environment For All of Montana's Mothers and Children*. Carol Williams is Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies honorary chairperson.

Local coalitions highlight their special projects and achievements during this important week for Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies. The State Coalition prepared materials and scheduled media events to support these events. Informational packets have been mailed to the coalitions to help promote observance of this special week.

The State HMHB media efforts include a media release to daily and weekly publications the first week of May. Two television and radio public service announcements feature Carol Williams and talks about the importance of being involved with HMHB. Local HMHB Coalition members as well as HMHB Board members are spokespersons for TV and Radio Talk Shows throughout the state.

Again this year, thanks to Rev. Ken Moore's efforts, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies has provided a worship booklet for Mothers' Day to over 500 churches of the Montana Association of Churches. The booklet contains ideas of ways local congregations and parishes can honor and support mothers. Financial support for this project was provided by the Montana

Carol Williams Serving As Honorary Chair for HMHB Week

Carol Williams has again agreed to serve as honorary chair for Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Week, May 11 through 17. Carol stated that when people are asked what they like about living in Montana, they're likely to say, "it's a great place to raise a family", and she wants to make sure Montana stays that way.



BOARD HAPPENINGS

HMHB Board Forms New Committees

The Board has formed the following committees to assist with the HMHB Projects. They are:

Fund Development Committee -

Steve Yeakel, Chair

Fund Development Subcommittees & Chairs:

Board Development and Involvement -

Ken Moore

Events - Lynn Lundborg

Donor - Al Lundborg

Membership - Carl Tanberg

Cause Related Marketing - Bob Howard

Legislation - Steve Yeakel

Public Education and Outreach -

Jodi Overstreet, Chair

Data Technology (R2D2) -

Carl Tanberg and Dana Glatz, Co-Chairs

Data Analysis and Program Development -

Tammy Plubell, Chair

HMHB Elects New Board Officers

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Board of Directors have elected new officers. The new officers are Rev. Kenneth Moore, President; Tammy Plubell, Vice President; and Carl Tanberg, Secretary/Treasurer.

New Board Member Elected



Carol Williams was elected to join the Board and serve as a Board member. Carol has a standing commitment to issues affecting women and children. She has been a Head Start teacher, served on the Montana Commission on the Status of Women, member of the Congressional Families for the Homeless, member of the Every Child by Two Immunization Task Force and member of Congressional Families for Breast Cancer Awareness. Carol is a native of Butte, Montana and the wife of former Montana Congressman Pat Williams. They live in Missoula and have three children.

"The reason I became involved with Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies was to join a group dedicated to making sure that babies, children and pregnant women are safe and healthy, and that children don't have children."



LOCAL HMHB COALITION HIGHLIGHTS

CASCADE COUNTY HMHB

Nancy Giles, Chairperson

Great Falls, MT - (406)761-3836

The December meeting was held and officers for 1997 were inducted into office. The HMHB-KIDS COUNT Community Forum was held in December and was well attended by local legislators and other community leaders interested in children & family issues.

In collaboration with the Cascade County Extension Agency, they planned and participated in the annual health fair in February, which in Nancy's observation, gets bigger and better every year.

Families Count Project continues to be the coalition's main focus. Funding has been very limited this year, but have been able to continue Parenting Classes for families with children newborn-5 years. Working in collaboration with the Partnership Project, Cascade County Extension Agency and the Great Falls School District a continuum of parenting classes for families with children newborn-12 have been established. They have an office where parents register and are put into a class that best suits their individual needs. This has been one of their many goals which has been reached. Gerri Labunetz, Parenting Educator Coordinator, is now a certified instructor to teach the nurturing program to new facilitators. She recently provided training in Havre in their effort to replicate the Great Falls Families Count program.

The Coalition also celebrates the annual HMHB Week. The coalition has had a very busy and fruitful year and Nancy wants to thank every one who contributed to their success.

On a personal note, Nancy took two weeks and joined the People for Missions Medical and Dental Mission to Guatemala. There were 11 people from Great Falls and 13 from Michigan and New York on their team. They held 6 medical/dental clinics in the remote mountains south of Zacapa Guatemala, a very interesting and rewarding experience.

CENTRAL MONTANA HMHB

Janine Hester, Chairperson

Lewistown, MT (406)538-7433

Lewistown hosted the HMHB-KIDS COUNT Community Forum last December which was well attended by legislators and community members. The Coalition has raised money to purchase a baby changing table located in a convenient location, and purchased prenatal vitamins for pregnant women who were referred by their physicians or other public agencies. They are in the process of organizing a quilt raffle to raise money for the purchase of baby formula and diapers for needy people.

Teen Day was successful. The Coalition worked with schools and businesses and activities included a radio show, publishing a page of articles written by students in the local paper; and "I Love Teens" buttons were worn by businessmen and teachers that day.

GALLATIN COUNTY HMHB

Jodie Overstreet

Three Forks/Bozeman, MT (406)285-4029

The Three Forks Teen Day 1997 was a huge success. It served over 197 students in grades 7-12 and involved 29 presentations covering a wide variety of topics. These topics covered everything from fly-fishing to career presentations such as politics and computer science, and a number of health related topics. They found the hands-on and interactive topics were the favorites.

An important aspect of Teen Day is having the students, teachers, and community involved in everything from the initial planning through the evaluation of the actual event.

(continued on Page 5)



EASTERN MONTANA HMHB

JoAnne Eldridge and

Rosemary Weber, Co-Chairs

Sidney, MT (406)744-5346

The Coalition is working on teen pregnancy prevention issues. They are working on post-prom night activities for teens to participate in on prom night.

Congratulations

Four members of the Ravalli County Healthy Families Network have been personally invited by Colin Powell to attend "The President's Summit On America's Future" in Philadelphia. This summit is chaired by President Clinton, George Bush, Mrs. Regan, and Colin Powell. Congratulations, Ravalli County Healthy Families!



RAVALLI COUNTY HEALTHY FAMILIES

Cheryl Schoenemon, Chair

Hamilton, MT - (406)363-4161

The Healthy Families Network group consists of 35 organizations. They have published a directory with a brief description of the agencies, listing a contact person, hours, locations, and mission. The network meets the second Wednesday of each month where over thirty service providers express concerns, problem solve, coordinate efforts, and give organizational updates. A short presentation to increase referral knowledge is given at the beginning of the meetings followed by a sharing session. Because of the short time frame and the large number of members, active participation is limited to the network group.

The Network Group is only one of the many Healthy Families activities which benefit their community. Other projects, past and present, include:

- Healthy Families Community Service Award
- Community forum/legislative breakfast with Gov. Racicot (including the KIDS COUNT & MCA presentations)
- Sponsoring the 1997 Montana Children's Agenda
- Ravalli Republic's "People Power" column
- Ravalli Republic's "Inside Healthy Families" column
- KLYQ's "Healthy Families On the Air" PSA spot
- Community Nutrition Project
- Tobacco Free Coalition
- Healthy Families Harvest (classes/market/food delivery systems)
- Family Preservation and Support Service Grant
- Teen Health Task Force
- Healthy Communities Project
- March for Parks/Earth Day Celebration
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors - a project co-owned by the

DPHHS and Montana Council for Families designed to accomplish two goals: 1) to encourage Montanans to volunteer to work with children and families in their community, and 2) to encourage parents to learn and apply responsible discipline with their children. The project is designed to be statewide and expanded across the state in three phases: Phase I will include Great Falls, Ravalli County, Anaconda, Butte and Yellowstone County. Areas included in Phases II and III are Missoula, Bozeman, Libby, Sanders County, Valley County, Miles City, Rocky Boy Reservation and Libby. Anticipated dates of implementation are June, 1997 for Phase I, September, 1997 for Phase II, and December, 1997 for Phase III.

YELLOWSTONE VALLEY HMHB

Marge Eliason, Chairperson

Billings, MT - (406)656-3276

The Billings Coalition have quarterly public awareness & educational meetings. A Teen Forum was held in March and another is scheduled for May 15. The May 15 Forum will feature Lynne Davis, Ted Lechner and Jeff Davis who will present ideas about how to facilitate the concept of "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child". The forum will include a panel discussion about a pilot project for youth and juvenile justice involving "taking back our streets, pride in our home area, schools being hubs of activity for our youth, and youth becoming stake holders in their own future."

The Coalition hosted the HMHB - *KIDS COUNT* Community Forum in November, the St. Vincent's Hospital provided breakfast. The Forum was well attended by legislators and other community members. Both Marge and Deirdre Alexander participate in PATH Task Force and the efforts on teen pregnancy prevention plan.

A New Coalition Is Forming!

MILES CITY, MT

Kay Weischedel - (406)233-3374

Miles City is a brand new coalition - just starting out. Many community members expressed an interest in forming an HMHB Coalition after the KIDS COUNT Community Forum held in November. The coalition will be placing ads in the local paper encouraging community members to join their efforts.

The Miles City Nutrition Coalition is planning a summer lunch program with the cooperation of Head Start. Their goal is to start the program in June. A steam table has already been donated and they are hoping for other donations.

GALLATIN COUNTY HMHB

Jodie Overstreet

(continued from page 4)



They did this by the use of two surveys; the first one was a planning form which requested information and ideas for topics of interest to the teens. They also requested community input and help in getting Teen Day organized. The second survey was the evaluation form which was widely distributed for input on what worked and what activities people would like next year.

There was wonderful news coverage of Teen Day. All local newspapers published great articles and a local television station came and filmed the event as it happened.



Baby Your Baby

HMHB's media and outreach campaign for mothers-to-be, young children and those who care about them, is entering its 5th year. Efforts are focused on healthy pregnancy outcomes and the health and well-being of young children.

To date, the Baby Your Baby toll-free has received calls from more than 4,000 pregnant women and 1,300 families with young children. Calls for other maternal and child health information have significantly increased.

Community Contacts - HMHB, through DPHHS and local health departments, has been able to maintain community contacts for referral in all 56 counties.

Television stations have been great partners and we appreciate them airing the Baby Your Baby message. Please contact your station to say thank you!

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| KTVH - Helena | KTMF - Missoula |
| ABC - 28 - Bozeman | KWYB - Butte |
| KULR - 8 - Billings | KTGF - Great Falls |
| ABC - 59 - Kalispell | |

NEW HAPPENINGS

Newspaper arrangements have been made with the Montana Newspaper Association to provide a weekly Baby Your Baby Column to all of its members.

Radio version of Baby Your Baby Moments is being produced and will begin airing this summer.

HMHB future plans for Baby Your Baby include using the BYB model, and expand the public education, information and referral system and clearinghouse to cover maternal and child health issues from pregnancy to age 18. We hope to be able to start on the first phase of this effort, pregnancy to age 12, this summer with an exciting new public education and outreach campaign in January 1998.



Immunization Activities

HMHB is distributing informational brochures on immunization in the Baby Your Baby Packets sent to parents calling the Baby Your Baby toll-free line.

Elsie Armstrong, HMHB's Executive Assistant, is a member of the Every Child By Two Task Force. First Lady Theresa Racicot and Carol Judge serve as co-chairs of Every Child By Two. The Project is sponsored by DPHHS Immunization Program.

(continued on Page 8)

Childhood Injury Prevention

Emergency Services for Children

Prevention of childhood injury and death are issues facing communities all across Montana. Montana's childhood injury death rate of 22 per 100,000 is higher than the national rate of 19 per 100,000. TV and radio PSA's about emergency medical services for children and prevention of childhood death and injury were produced & distributed for the EMS Bureau of the Montana DPHHS by Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, The Montana Coalition.

Open Water Drowning Prevention Activities

Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies has received funds from the DPHHS, Emergency Medical Services Bureau for an Open Water Drowning Prevention Campaign to educate parents and others of safe boating practices and the dangers of high water. The campaign is a collaborative effort which includes the the Departments of Public Health & Human Services, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Transportation, Disaster & Emergency Services; American Red Cross, YMCA, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, Blackfeet Health & Safety Corp., Critical Illness-Trauma Foundation, Montana Power Company & HMHB. Children and teen information/activity packets will be available by calling HMHB's Info-line 1-800-421- 6667.



KIDS COUNT

The 1996 Kids Count Data Book is a great success according to feedback received. In addition, two Special Reports have been published in the last year: 1) A Report on the Health of Montana's Infants, which is a review of principal adverse birth outcomes that affect the status of infants in Montana including infant mortality and low birthweight; and 2) A Report on Teen Pregnancy in Montana explores the impact and factors that bear on teen pregnancy and how everyone might work together to make a difference.

These reports are available at a cost of \$5.00 by calling HMHB - (406)449-8611.

Future Plans - Due to limited funding, the Data Book will be produced on a biennial schedule, so look for the next Data Book in 1998. The next Special Report will be issued in the fall and focus on Dental Care and Montana's Children.



1997 Teen Day Celebrated

The fifth annual celebration of Montana Teen Day was held on February 7, 1997. This year's theme was *Emerging Roles and Teen Responsibilities*. Teen Day is designed to celebrate and honor teens and promote community activities to heighten awareness of teens' contributions to society and help teens progress effectively into their futures.

HMHB mailed over 400 Teen Day packets to various individuals and schools containing a variety of materials developed to assist the communities in planning events. Many communities participated in the celebration. Activities included full page ads in their local newspapers featuring teens accomplishments; businessmen and school staff wearing "I Love Teens" buttons; distribution and displays of posters in local businesses; radio and television shows; school dances; teens participating in food drives; special lunches and breakfasts held for teens in high schools. Some community merchants offered discounts to teens on that day. Some of the schools offered a "free day" and students participated in special activities and workshops instead of regular classes.

Start planning now for 1998 Teen Day - February 3, 1998!

PATH

The PATH Task Force has been working on a statewide teen pregnancy prevention plan. The Task Force has researched the issue of teen pregnancy extensively and developed guidelines for comprehensive approaches for either local or state efforts to reduce teen pregnancy. The group is reviewing plans from other states and working on a matrix of definitions. Community Activation Packets are being developed which will include tools for communities to address this issue. A Statewide Teen Pregnancy Conference is being planned in conjunction with DPHHS.

The Path Task Force has developed, and sponsored, Montana Teen Day since 1992. Teen Day is an annual, statewide effort to promote community celebration that honors Montana Teens. In 1997, HMHB distributed over 400 Teen Day Packets (see Teen Day article page). A special thank you to DPHHS - Family/Community Health Bureau and Addictive/Mental Disorders Division for their support.

Montana Children's Alliance

The 1997 Montana Children's Agenda issues were presented to the 1997 Legislature. This session has been particularly difficult for human services issues. More than 50% of the Montana Children's Agenda issues were successful. Among those are the MIAMI Project, Adopt Nationally Recognized Definition of Sudden Infant Syndrome (SIDS), the Fetal/Infant and Child Death Review and the Caring Program for Children. A legislative update will be forthcoming in a few weeks.



Children's Day at the Legislature was, once again, a great success! The children delivered muffins and juice to the Legislative Committees, visited the Governor's Office, the Secretary of State, and the Office of Public Instruction. Displays from various organizations, balloons, children's wagons, and children from preschools, daycare centers, and the Cascade School made it a "fun" day for everyone that participated.

Awakening Montana (SIDS)

Robin Ammons, Chair

Awakening Montana is a group of volunteers across Montana who wish to increase awareness of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and assist with problems encountered by parents whose infants have died. The project has become affiliated with HMHB.

In the past decade researchers of SIDS have come a long way in their understanding of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. SIDS has been identified, defined, and some risk factors have been noted. It has been found that although not all cases of SIDS are preventable, awareness of risk factors and some changes in the ways people care for their infants can help decrease the numbers of these tragic deaths. During the past year PSA's have been produced, brochures printed, and the group sponsored SB 297 to adopt a definition of SIDS that is accepted nationally into Montana law. They hope that this law will serve as a guideline for the diagnosing of SIDS and as a reminder to everyone of the issues.

CALENDAR

May

Mental Health Month
Nt'l Teenage Pregnancy - Prevention Awareness Month
MT Association of WIC Agencies Conference,
Yogo Inn, Lewistown, Montana

7-9

11-17 Montana HMHB Week

16 Suicide Prevention, Skills and Techniques, Colonial Park Inn, Helena, MT

16 Mental Health Association of MT Annual Meeting, Colonial Park Inn, Helena, MT

16-17 Diabetes Care Continuum, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish, MT

17 Race For the Cure, Helena

19 Open Water Drowning Campaign Kick Off - Staying On Top Of It

23-25 American Academy of Pediatrics, District VIII Section on Perinatal Pediatrics, Grouse Mtn Lodge, Whitefish, MT

25-28 32nd Annual Association for the Care of Children's Health (ACCH), Renaissance Hotel, Washington, D.C.

SEPTEMBER

3-5 Rocky Mtn Rural Trauma Conference, Gt. Falls, MT
26-28 Celebrating Adolescence: Global Approaches to Sexual Health, Advocates for Youth, Washington, D.C.

OCTOBER

Child Health Month
6-8 MT Public Health Association Annual Conference, Billings, MT
16-17 MT Education Association Conference, Billings, MT
19-22 National HMHB Conference, Washington, D.C.
23 Rocky Mtn Childbirth Conference, Kalispell, MT

NOVEMBER

1 Donald E. Espelin Award Nominations Due
24 HMHB Holiday "Artique" Show & Auction

1998

FEBRUARY

3 1998 Montana Teen Day



SAVE THE DATE!

November 24, 1997
Holiday "Artique" Show
& Auction
Benefit for HMHB

Way To Go!

HMHB, The Montana Coalition, received grant from the U.S. West Foundation for the KIDS COUNT Project!

Child Occupant Protection

Flora Sebens, the Baby Your Baby Project Assistant, has recently attended a Child Occupant Protection Training Specialist Workshop in Helena, sponsored by the Montana Traffic Safety Bureau. The training was conducted by Judy Hammond from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Informational brochures regarding child car seat safety are included in the Baby Your Baby packets sent to parents calling the Baby Your Baby toll-free line. Please call Flora at HMHB for information - (406)449-8611.

Seven reasons parents give for not taking children for their shots (Continued from Page 6)

- 1) My baby is healthy - there's no reason to take him/her to the doctor.
- 2) My baby won't get the measles - nobody gets it anymore.
- 3) Childhood diseases aren't serious.
- 4) I can't take the time off from work to take my baby to the doctor.
- 5) I can't afford to go to the doctor.
- 6) I'll take them for shots when they're old enough for school.
- 7) My doctor didn't tell me my baby needed shots.

Source: 1997 National Infant Immunization Week

The HMHB Newsletter is published by Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, The Montana Coalition, P.O. Box 876, Helena, MT 59624. Phone (406) 449-8611.

Editing, Design & Typesetting by Elsie Armstrong and Flora Sebens, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies, Helena, MT



Healthy Mothers
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The Montana Coalition

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